CLAIMS

1.   A method of processing an application at a terminal (60) in a digital broadcasting system, the terminal (60) supporting a virtual machine (150) which is arranged to process applications in a first code format, the method comprising the steps of:
        receiving an application in a second code format; and
        converting at least part of the application into the first code format.

2.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the step of converting the application comprises compiling (120) the content into the first code format.

3.   A method according to claim 2 further comprising executing the compiled application.

4.   A method according to any one of the preceding claims further comprising storing (69) the converted code.

5.   A method according to any one of the preceding claims further comprising storing (69) the received application before converting the application into the first code format.

6.   A method according to claim 5 further comprising monitoring activity (114) of the virtual machine and selecting a time at which to convert the application into the first code format based on the monitored activity.

7.   A method according to claim 5 further comprising interpreting (130) the received application into the first code format and monitoring usage (112) of the interpreted application, and wherein the application is compiled into the first code format based on the monitored usage.

8.   A method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the converting step comprises interpreting (130) a part of the application and compiling (120) another part of the application into the first code format.

9.   A method according to claim 8 wherein the application comprises scripted actions and other content, and only the scripted actions are compiled into the first code format.

10.   A method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein only selected applications received in the second code format are converted to the first code format.

11.   A method according to any one of the preceding claims further comprising sending the converted application to another terminal (90, 92).

12.   A method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the virtual machine (150) is a Java virtual machine and the first code format is Java bytecode.

13.   A method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the terminal (60) is a Multimedia Home Platform (MHP) terminal and the complied content is an MHP Xlet.

14.   A method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the second code format is a legacy transmission code format.

15.   A method according to claim 14 wherein the second code format is MHEG-5.

16.   A control apparatus for a terminal (60) in a digital broadcasting system which is arranged to perform the method according to any one of the preceding claims.

17.   Software for controlling operation of a terminal (60) in the manner according to the method of any one of claims 1 to 15.

18.   A signal, for transmission in a digital broadcasting system, which embodies the software according to claim 17.

19.   A terminal (60) incorporating the control apparatus according to claim 16 or software according to claim 17.